

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
Ruedi Hess ) Group Art Unit:  
Application No.: ) Examiner:  
Filed: July 16, 2004 ) Confirmation No.:  
For: SLING )

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date July 16, 2004

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Substitute for form 1479A/PJO & 449B/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
<b>FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/501532	
			Filing Date	July 16, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	Ruedi Hess	
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	009765-053

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	3,707,021	A	Norrman	12-26-1972
	4,055,857	A	Brucciani	11-01-1977
	5,873,613		Bliehall et al.	02-23-1999
	5,829,374		Hede et al.	11-03-1998
	4,396,091		Anderson	08-02-1983
	4,083,521		Greiner II	04-11-1978

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	STATUS					
					Translation	Partial Translation	Eng. Lang. Summary	Search Report	IPER	Abstract
	3040501	A	Germany	06-03-1982				*		
	0967314	A	Europe	12-29-1999				*		
	0281287	A	Europe	09-07-1988				*		

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

\* COPY ATTACHED

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.